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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10960373 -7

IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Joshua N. Hogan

Application No.: 09/855889

Filing Date: May 14, 2001

Title: Encoding Decryption Data Into A Pattern Of Merge Bits

Confirmation No.: 2152

Examiner: Zand, Kambiz

Group Art Unit: 2132

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner For Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR RESPONSE/AMENDMENT

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is/are the following in the above-identified application:

(X) Response/Amendment
(X) New fee as calculated below
( ) No additional fee
( ) Other: _____ (fee $_____)
(X) Petition to extend time to respond
( ) Supplemental Declaration

CLAIMS AS AMENDED BY OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY						
(1) FOR	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	(6) RATE	(7) ADDITIONAL FEES
TOTAL CLAIMS	4	MINUS	20	= 0	X $50	$ 0
INDEP. CLAIMS	3	MINUS	3	= 0	X $200	$ 0
[ ] FIRST PRESENTATION OF A MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM					+ $360	$ 0
EXTENSION FEE	1ST MONTH $120.00 [X]	2ND MONTH $450.00 [ ]	3RD MONTH $1020.00 [ ]	4TH MONTH $1590.00 [ ]		$ 120
					OTHER FEES	$
					TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT	$ 120

Charge $ 120 to Deposit Account 08-2025. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 08-2025 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. Additionally please charge any fees to Deposit Account 08-2025 under 37 CFR 1.16, 1.17, 1.19, 1.20 and 1.21. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

(X) I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office facsimile number (571) 273-8300 on Aug 23 2005
Number of pages:

Typed Name: Donna M Kraft

Signature: Donna M Kraft

Respectfully submitted,

Joshua N. Hogan

By A. W. Winfield

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PATENT APPLICATION

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10960373-7

IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Josh Hogan

Serial No.: 09/855,889 Examiner: Zand, Kambiz

Filing Date: 05/14/2001 Group Art Unit: 2132

Title: Encoding Decryption Data Into A Pattern Of Merge Bits

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

REMARKS IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Amendments to the specification are presented on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

At page 1, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 5 (CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS) with the following amended paragraph:

The present application is a divisional application of serial number 09/134,145 (filed 08/14/98), now U.S. Patent Number 6,278,386, which is a divisional application of serial number 08/883,996 (filed 06/27/97, now U.S. Patent No. 5,828,754), which is a divisional application of serial number 08/606,697 (filed 02/26/96, now U.S. Patent No. 5,699,434), which is a continuation-in-part application of serial number 08/570,949 (filed 12/15/95, abandoned). Application serial number 09/134,145 and U.S. Patent Numbers 5,828,754 and 5,699,434 are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

1. (original) A method of transmitting decryption data, the method comprising the following steps:

(a) encoding a bit of decryption data into a pattern of merge bits;

(b) encoding channel bits having the pattern of merge bits of step (a); and

(c) transmitting the channel bits resulting from step (b).

2. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising using the decryption data for inhibiting copying of digital information, the method comprising the following additional steps:

(d) decoding the channel bits from step (c);

(e) decoding the pattern of merge bits in the channel bits of step (d) back into the bit of step (a); and

(f) using the decoded bit of step (e) to modify the decoded channel bits of step (d).

3. (previously presented) A digital medium, comprising:

first data encoded into fixed-length bit patterns;

merge bits between the fixed-length bit patterns of first data, the merge bits selected to satisfy run-length-limited requirements and digital-sum-variance requirements; and

at least some merge bits also selected to specify second data.

4. (currently amended) A method, comprising:

Selecting, by an encoder, merge bits to satisfy run-length-limited requirements, digital-sum-variance requirements, and also to specify at least one bit of data.